

Message Text

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70

ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 /036 W

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R 031226Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY LOME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1437

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L L O M E 2705

FOR SCL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TO

SUBJECT: A USG MESSAGE FOR JANUARY 13, TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF
EYADEMA'S RULE

1. FRENCH EMBASSY TELLS US THAT FRENCH PRESIDENT
GISCARD VALERY D'ESTAING CALLED TOGOLESE PRESIDENT DURING
LATTER'S RECENT COUP DE THEATRE TO OFFER FRENCH
SUPPORT AND TO ENCOURAGE HIM TO STAY IN POWER.
2. GOT HAS INVITED GISCARD TO PARTICIPATE IN JANUARY 13
CELEBRATION TEN YEARS EYADEMA'S RULE. TOGOLESE APPARENTLY
DO NOT EXPECT GISCARD TO COME BUT EXPECT EITHER FRENCH
PRIME MINISTER OR FOREIGN MINISTER TO COME.
3. GERMANS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO SEND CABINET MINISTER FOR
EVENT. A DOZEN AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE EXPECTED TO ATTEND.
4. GOT HAS NOT APPROACHED EMBASSY RE POSSIBILITY
HIGH-LEVEL USG REPRESENTATION....AND WE DO NOT
ANTICIPATE SUCH APPROACH. NEVERTHELESS, WE SUGGEST
DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER SENDING APPROPRIATE
CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO EYADEMA FOR JANUARY 13
CELEBRATION.

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5. IMPORTANT FACT IS THAT HE MAY BE LIKELY CANDIDATE,

FROM FRENCH POINT OF VIEW, TO SUCCEED HOUPHOUET AND
SENGHOR AS INSTRUMENT OF FRENCH POLICY IN FRANCOPHONE
AFRICA AS LATTER HISTORIC PERSONALITIES NEAR END THEIR
CAREERS. THUS, IT IN U.S. INTEREST TO KEEP LINES OF
COMMUNICATION OPEN TO EYADEMA. (FYI: CARTER MESSAGE
OF THANKS TO EYADEMA FRONT-PAGED IN TODAY'S TOGO-PRESSE.
END FYI).

6. WE HAVE DISCUSSED SUCH JANUARY 13 MESSAGE WITH
AF/W DIRECTOR TOM SMITH AND HE AGREES THAT IT WOULD
BE USEFUL.

7. ADVISE.
PALMER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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